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JOINT ECONOMIC

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0104

January 22, 2007

Ms. Martha Johnston
Director, Office of Legislative Affairs
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW, Room 8-C432
Washington, D.C. 20554

WTB
Facilities 03-187
154 FILED/ACCEPTED

MAR 23 2007

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Ms. Johnston:

Please find enclosed a letter that I received from Ms. Georgie K. Stanford. Any information that you may have regarding this matter would be appreciated, so that I may respond to my constituent's inquiry.

Thank you for your assistance. Please respond to Shanderla McMillian in my Huntsville Office.

Office of Senator Jeff Sessions
AmSouth Center, Suite 802
200 Clinton Avenue, NW
Huntsville, AL 35801-4932
256/533-0979

Very truly yours,



Jeff Sessions
United States Senator

0102 2002 0102

JS:sm
Enclosure

Georgie K. Stanford
3000 County Road 33
Tuscumbia, AL 35674

Office of Senator Jeff Sessions
AmSouth Center, Suite 802
200 Clinton Avenue NW
Huntsville, Alabama 35801-4932

December 11, 2006

Dear Senator Sessions,

It seems that the old nautical saying "rust never sleeps" applies to packs of social meddlers as well. They never sleep. We need some help in fighting off a bunch of them who seem intent on destroying what little nocturnal sleep and tranquility the rest of us have left in this hectic and harried world.

I have learned recently that "environmental activists" have been claiming that red lights on communications towers have been killing birds so they've been demanding that the FCC have all these lights changed to white strobes. (This is hype. Considering all the communications towers in America their "millions" number is about one bird per tower per decade.) Forget birds. Communications tower lighting is designed to prevent big heavy airplanes full of highly inflammable fuels from crashing and burning up the people and property beneath their flight paths.

As you are aware, much of Colbert County lies under the MOA for Columbus AFB, which means that every week we have low level night flights by dozens of half trained student pilots overhead. All it takes is a little bit of fog and a white strobe light becomes a lethally disorienting device, to the point where even tiny wingtip strobes can be dangerous. We have known this fact for over 40 years, which is why the FAA recommends that pilots turn off their wingtip strobe lights in IFR conditions.

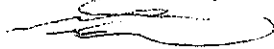
Imagine the effect of white communications tower strobes which produce a lightening flash for nine miles in any direction. They produce the same disorienting effect, attacking anyone who has to face them when they're driving or doing other night time outdoor activities. Even sitting on the porch can be dangerous if a white strobe light is on the horizon. Looking out your windshield on any evening road trip up I-65 from Mobile you can personally see that white communications tower strobes will turn these otherwise harmless landmarks into torture devices from hell for any hapless soul who has to look at them for very long.

Enclosed is a CC of my recent electronically filed comment to the FCC. Knowing government agencies as I do and knowing the sort of hive mind mentality which makes social meddlers thrive I have no doubt that if it is noticed at all it will be shouted down by

Yankee lawyers. Then before you know it we'll have more bright white strobe lights making the countryside look like a 1960's acid rock concert.

So if you would please help convince the FCC they need to require blinking red lights on communications towers and not those noxious white strobes. I see no reason that the FCC put the rest of us at risk of being blinded and running our cars/airplanes/goat carts into a tree for the sake of a few Yankee lawyers getting fat on their lobby money.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Georgie K. Stanford", with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

Georgie K Stanford



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

March 21, 2007

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
AmSouth Center, Suite 802
200 Clinton Avenue, NW
Huntsville, AL 35801-4932

Dear Senator Sessions:

Thank you for your correspondence of January 22, 2007, on behalf of your constituent, Ms. Georgie K. Stanford. Ms. Stanford sought your support to ensure that the Commission consider her comments in the Migratory Bird Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM). Please inform Ms. Stanford that her comments were received by the Commission and included in the official record of WTB Docket No. 03-187, *Effects of Communications Towers on Migratory Birds*. We have also included in the record Ms. Stanford's letter that you forward to our attention. In the NPRM, the Commission tentatively concluded that, "for communications towers subject to our Part 17 rules, medium intensity white strobe lights for nighttime conspicuity is to be considered the preferred system over red obstruction lighting systems to the maximum extent possible *without compromising safety* (emphasis added)."

The comment period for this proceeding has been extended to April 23, 2007; reply comments are due on May 23, 2007. Only after all comments have been received will the Commission prepare a Report and Order adopting any rule changes. In deciding what actions to take, the Commission will consider all of the comments in the record and will work closely with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and other expert federal agencies.

It should be noted that the Commission currently requires all towers over 200 feet in height or located in the flight path of airport runways to be marked or lighted in accordance with FAA recommendations and to be registered with the FCC. The Commission intends to continue its close, working relationship with the FAA as it considers possible amendments to its rules. The pending NPRM does not propose any change in this process.

Please refer any further questions you may have to Susan Kimmel, Spectrum and Competition Policy Division at 202/418-1679 or susan.kimmel@fcc.gov. Thank you again for your concern.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Abeyta".

Dan Abeyta
Assistant Division Chief
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau